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May 27, 1999

Dockets Management Branch Food & Drug Administration Dept. of Health & Human Services 12420 Parklawn Drive Room 1-23 Rockville, MD 20857

RE: Docket #98P-0203/CP.

We urge the FDA to grant the petition, filed under the above docket number, that would eliminate the practice of forced molting of hens.

It is based on the documentation that starving the hens wrecks their immune systems resulting in Salmonella Enteritidis bacterial poisoning of the hens and their eggs.

It is also cruel and inhumane.

Sincerely,

Nazen Merjian

VFA

981-0203

C1534

VOICES FOR ANIMALS 170 Rugby Road Charlottesville, VA 22903

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